

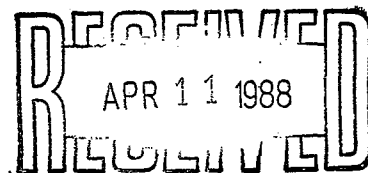


*Sent App Farms 4/15/88*  
*mgj*

Medical College of Virginia  
Virginia Commonwealth University

March 17, 1988

Harmon C. McAllister, Ph.D.  
Research Director  
The Council for Tobacco Research-U.S.A., Inc.  
900 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10022



Dear Dr. McAllister:

As you may know, tobacco consumption during pregnancy has been associated with intra-uterine growth retardation (IUGR). In fact, recent deliberations regarding California Proposition 65 imply that environmental tobacco smoke may also be a reproductive hazard. Current theory suggests that smoking related IUGR is mediated by fetal hypoxia produced either by carbon monoxide or nicotine.

After an extensive review both the experimental and epidemiologic literature on the reproductive toxicity of tobacco smoke, I believe that there are plausible alternative mechanisms involving the hormones of the placenta that may explain the relationship between smoking during pregnancy and IUGR. Studies into such a relationship could ultimately result in diagnostic tests and medical treatment planning which may be useful in predicting the risk of and preventing IUGR associated with smoking during pregnancy. This issue is rather significant since it has been claimed that IUGR is a major risk factor for perinatal mortality.

I would like very much to develop a research proposal which would examine a possible relationship between smoking during pregnancy, endocrine changes, and intra-uterine growth retardation. I understand from our previous correspondence that the next deadline for CTR grant applications is May 31, 1988. Please advise me as to the best strategy to obtain support for this project. In particular, I wish to know whether you would prefer a letter of intent at this stage or a completed grant application.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

*272-9565*  
*Wit*  
*Raphael J. Witorsch (804)*  
Raphael J. Witorsch, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

*Telephoned 4/14/88*  
*discussed proj - no good link between smoke & IUGR*

*will send app form & she will see*